

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A control system for selecting from and controlling a plurality of  
2 devices in an operating room, the control system comprising:

3                   a master controller , the master controller comprising:

- 4                   a) means for receiving selection commands from a user wherein each  
5                   selection command is associated with a device in electrical  
6                   communication with the master controller;  
7                   b) means for receiving control commands from a user;  
8                   c) means for converting selection commands and control commands into  
9                   corresponding selection signals and control signals;  
10                  d) means for routing control signals to a device specified by a selection  
11                  command received by the means for receiving selection commands, the  
12                  means for routing control signals additionally comprising means for  
13                  receiving selection signals.

1                   2.       The control system of Claim 1 further including at least one slave  
2 controller in electrical communication with the master controller.

1                   3.       The control system of claim 1 wherein the master further comprises:

- 2                   a) a microphone configured to receive voice commands;  
3                   b) an A/D converter configured to convert voice commands into digital  
4                   representations thereof;  
5                   c) a feature extractor electrically connected to and in communication with  
6                   the A/D converter;  
7                   d) a decoder in electrical communication with the feature extractor, the  
8                   decoder configured to generate information packages indicative of  
9                   control commands received at the feature extractor;  
10                  e) a memory in electrical communication with the decoder wherein the  
11                  memory contains user models indicative of specific words that are used  
12                  to control the system;  
13                  f) a central processor comprising:  
14                  1) means for routing information generated by the decoder to a  
15                  specifically addressed device;

16                            2) a memory containing addresses for each medical device in  
17                            electrical communication with the master controller.

1                            4.        The system of claim 3 wherein the master controller includes a  
2        PCMCIA card interface.

1                            5.        The system of Claim 4 wherein user models are contained on a  
2        PCMCIA card that may be inserted into the PCMCIA card interface.

1                            6.        The system of Claim 2 wherein the slave controller comprises means  
2        for modeling the sequence of valid commands.

1                            7.        The system of Claim 6 further including a plurality of adapters  
2        corresponding to the number of devices in electrical communication with the master  
3        controller, wherein each adapter has an associated address and means for converting control  
4        signals into signals recognized by each specific device.

1                            8.        The system of Claim 1 wherein the plurality of devices comprises  
2        medical devices.

1                            9.        The system of Claim 3 wherein the master controller comprises  
2        removable storage media.